

REMARKS

Examination is respectfully requested in view of the amendments and the following remarks.

Disposition of Claims

The claims currently pending in the application are claims 21, 22, 26, 27, 31, 32 and 40-43. Claims 15-20, 28, 29, 37-39 and 44-48 have been withdrawn in response to a restriction requirement. Claim 30 has been cancelled.

Response to the Restriction Requirement

The Examiner in his office action of May 19, 2005 issued a four-way restriction requirement as follows: (1) Group 1 directed to claims 15-17, 37-39 and 44-48, (2) Group 2 directed to claims 18-20, (3) Group 3 directed to claims 21, 22, 26, 27, 30-32 and 40-43, and (4) Group 4 directed to claims 28 and 29. Applicants hereby elected Group 3 without traverse. However, the Applicants preserve the right to file one or more divisional applications covering the non-elected claims and claiming priority from the instant application.

Conclusion

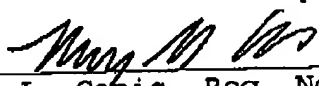
The pending and amended claims are submitted to clarify and distinctly claim what the applicants consider as their invention. Applicants have thereby submitted claims that specifically recite elements neither shown nor suggested in the prior art and to make clear the manner in which those elements cooperate to provide the unique advantages of the present invention.

Based on the foregoing, allowance of claims 21, 22, 26, 27, 31, 32 and 40-43 is solicited. Applicants aver that no new matter is being introduced by virtue of the amendment to the claims and that proper antecedent basis is provided in the specification for these claims.

Should the Examiner have any questions, comments or suggestions which would place the application in a condition for allowance, he is respectfully requested to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

6/16/05
Date


Randy L. Canis, Reg. No. 44,584
Attorney for Applicant
CUSTOMER NUMBER: 22807
Greensfelder, Hemker & Gale, PC
10 S. Broadway, Suite 2000
St. Louis, Missouri 63102
314-241-9090 Telephone
314-345-4704 Facsimile